





THE POLICE THINK IT'S ONE

















NERO WOLFE

by Rex Stout























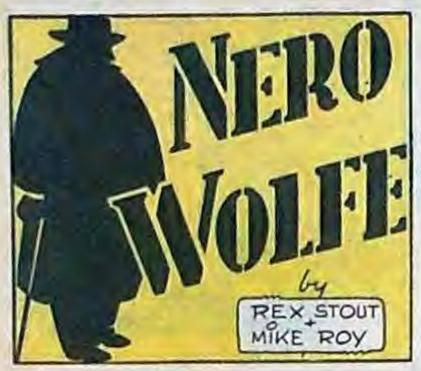


















"THE UNUSUAL ORCHID ON THE THREAT NOTE TO MISS ROYCE, INFORMED ME THAT IT COULD ONLY HAVE BEEN GROWN BY AN ORCHID FANCIER OF IMAGINATION, DARING, AND--YES, RUTHLESSNESS!"

















A COLLEGE CAMPUS IS A SEDATE AND PEACEFUL BETTING

















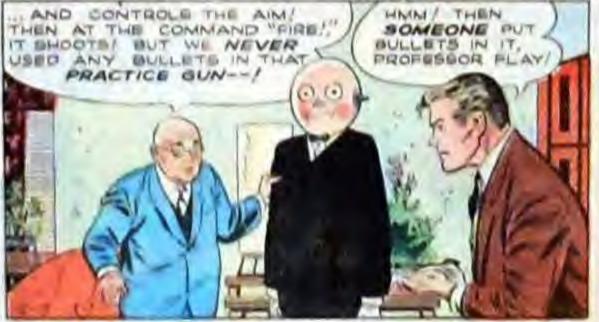
NERO WOLFE

































THAT MAKES HER A

NEARBY, IN THE PHYSICS

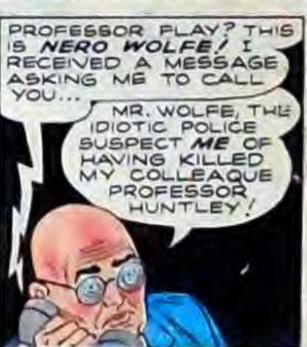


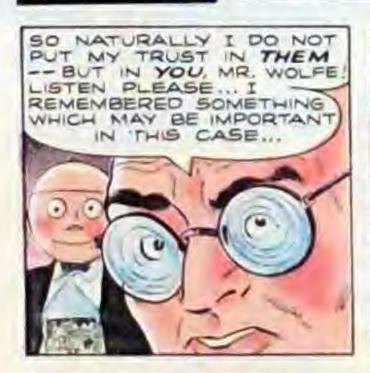






























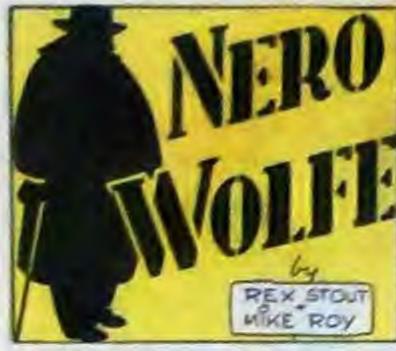










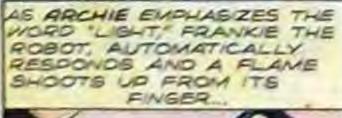






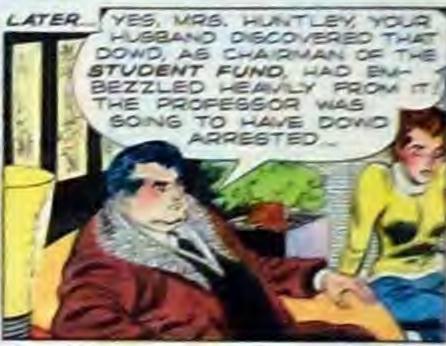












SECRETLY LOADING THE ROBOT'S PRACTICE GUN WITH BULLETS, AND LATER."



THEN DOWD LEARNED
THAT PROFESSOR PLAY
HAD BEEN TRYING TO
REACH ME BY PHONE
--AND HE FEARED
THAT PLAY HAD
REASON TO SUSPECT E
HIM! THEREFORE HE
KILLED HIM TOO--AND
MADE IT SEEM AS IF
THE ROBOT HAD DONE

















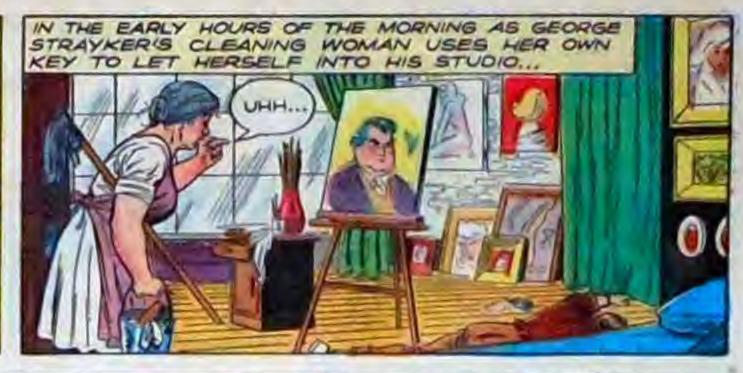














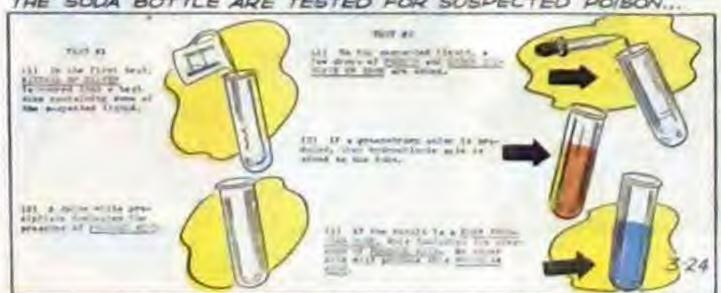








IN THE POLICE TECHNICAL LABORATORY THE CONTENTS OF THE SODA BOTTLE ARE TESTED FOR SUSPECTED POISON ...













WE THINK STRAYKER MADE THAT ODD V-MARK WHILE DYING IN ORDER TO GIVE US A LEAD TO HIS KILLER! DID YOU EVER HEAR HIM TALK ABOUT A MISS VIOLA

MR. WOLFE? NO INSPECTOR-STRAYKER HAD ANOTHER GREAT TALENT! HE NEVER GOSGIPED WILLE HE PAINTED!





I THINK STRAYKER'S DYING MARK COULD BE A LEAD POINTING TO THAT PAINTING, BOSS -- OR SOMETHING













I'M SURE THIS
PAINTING
WILL REVEAL
NOTHING BUT
YOU MIGHT LOOK
AROUND THE
SALLERY
WHILE YOU'RE
THERE!























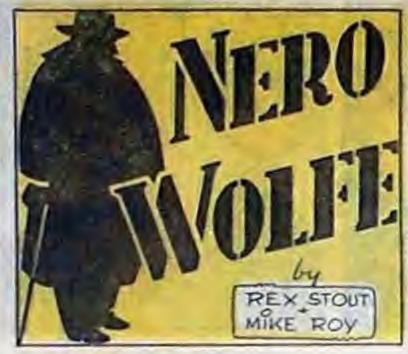






































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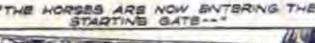




































































T'S BEGINNING TO FIT
-- GREENE MUSTIVE
KILLED STRAYKER
BECAUSE HE GOT
COLD FEET AND WAS
GOING TO EXPOSE THE
HOAX TO THE POLICE!



THE POSSESSION WOULD LEAD THE POLICE TO HIM -- WHICH TO DID GOME ON MISTER ...

GREENE SHOT HER BECAUSE HE

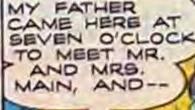
FEARED STRAYKER'S SKETCHBOOK



STRAYKER'S
DYING ATTEMPT
TO NAME HIS
MURDERER! AS
EVERY SCHOOLBOY
KNOWS BLUE PLUS
YELLOW ADDS
UP TO--GREEN!



BOLA PARK ... YOU'VE MADE A



MISTAKE, MISS... THE
PARK WAS LOCKED
TIGHT AT SEVEN
BESIDES THERE'S
NO ONE AROUND
HERE BY THAT
NAME







IS NOT AMUSED...











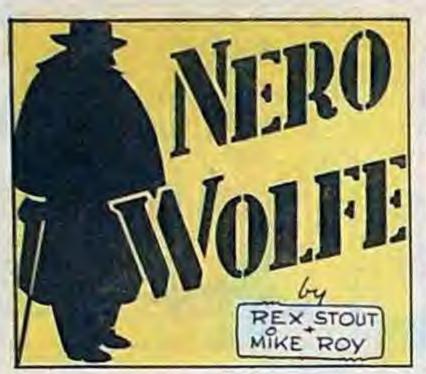




































A DISAPPEARING DUMMY IN THE TUNNEL OF LOVE AND A MISSING PERSON ARE POOR EXCUSES FOR DESERTING AN ATTRACTIVE REDHEAD, BUT...





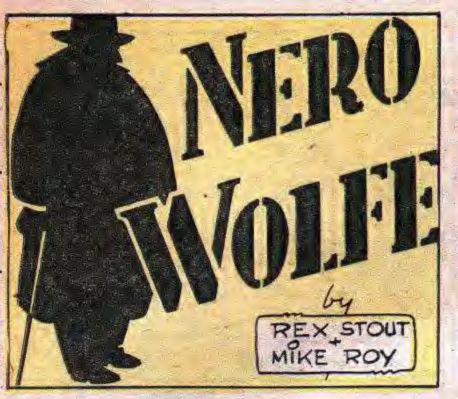


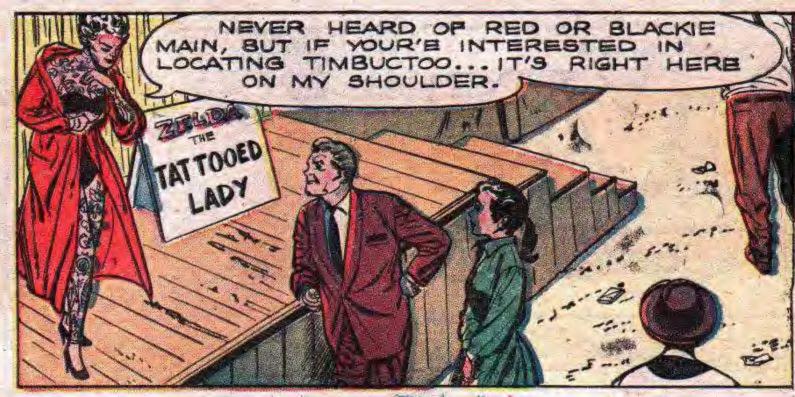






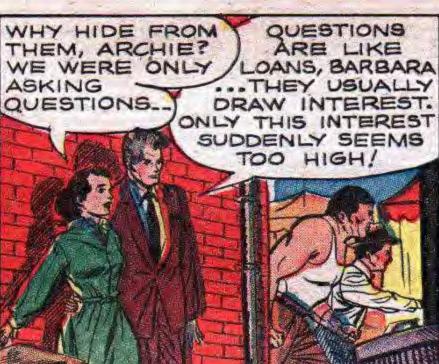








IN THEIR
SEARCH
FOR HER
FATHER,
ARCHIE AND
BARBARA
FIND
THEMSELVES
LITERALLY
AND
FACTUALLY
UP AGAINST
A STONE
WALL...



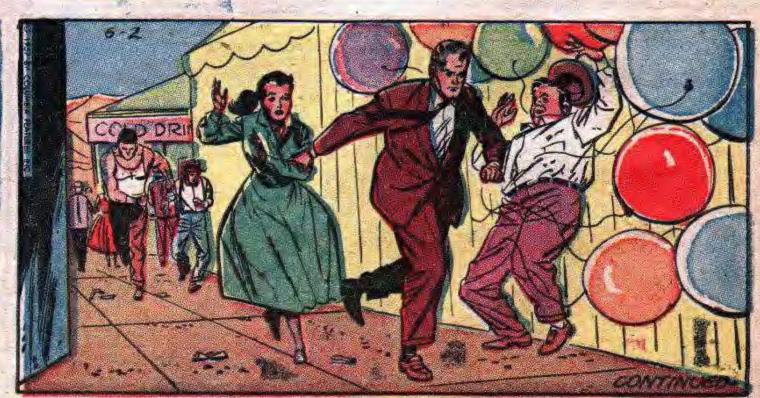


















THE SEARCH FOR BARBARA'S FATHER PROVED FRUITLESS AND DANGEROUS ...







LATER IN NERO WOLFE'S



THE DUMMY YOU SAW IN
THE TUNNEL OF LOVE WAS
PROBABLY THE BODY OF THAT
POOR SIRL'S FATHER... DO YOU
KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS, ARCHIEF

QUICKLY ARCHIE PHONES BARBARA'S





























ARCHIE
AND
BARBARA
HAVE BEEN
IMPRISONED
ATOP THE
FERRIS
WHEEL
WHILE
ALDO, THE
SIDESHOW
STRONG
MAN, STANDS
GUARD
BELOW...



















THING ALDOS AS STRONG AS THE REST OF HIS BODY

ONE OF THEIR ARCHIE RESCUES MISS BARBARA BRIAN, THEN HEADS FOR WHAT MIGHT BE AN UGLY FUTURE IN THE **FORTUNETELLS** BOOTH ...

AFTER



















IT SEEMS THE MURDEROUS
PAIR OF BLACKMAILERS
THE HANDS'
ARE WELL
GURROUNDED
BY THE ARMS
OF THE
LAW...



I'M SORRY IF--IF ONLY
ABOUT HE'D CONFIDED
YOUR IN ME---WE
FATHER, MIGHT HAVE
BARBARA SAVED HIS
LIFE!



WE SEARCHED THE
LATE MR. BRIAN'S OFFICE
FILES. IT SEEMS THE
HANDS, ALIAS THE MAINS,
HELPED GET HIM INTO
THIS COUNTRY ILLEGALLY
AND NEVER LET HIM
FORGET IT/ WHEN HE TRIED
TO, THEY KILLED HIM/











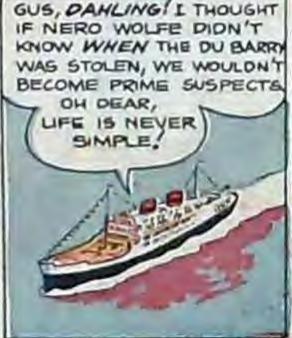








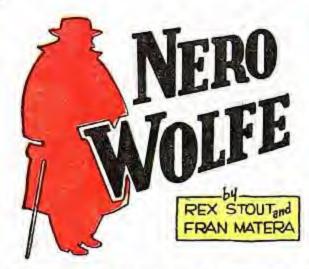


















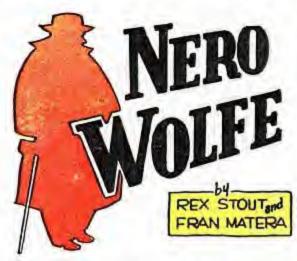








































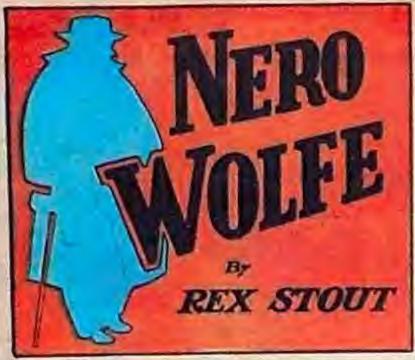














ARCHIE ISN'T
BACK YET FROM
AN ERRAND ON
WHICH I SENT HIM
CONCERNING THOSE
PHONE CALLS.
LET'S GO,
INSPECTOR. I
SUSPECT TROUBLE.



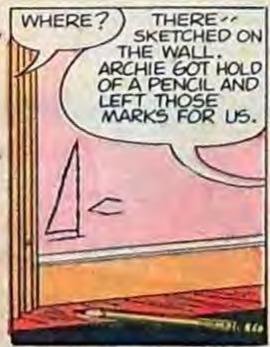




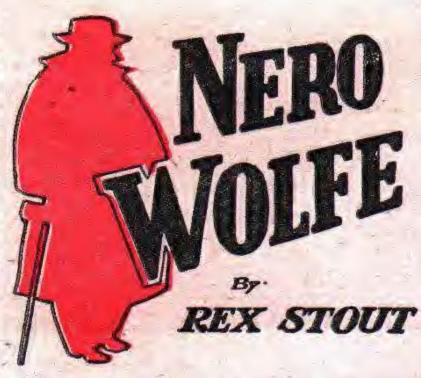


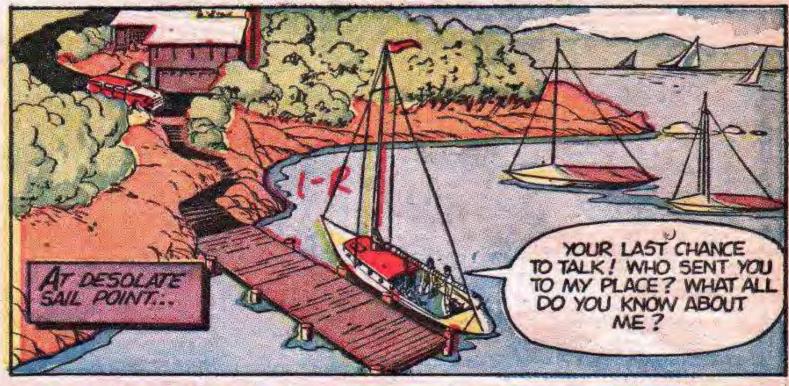














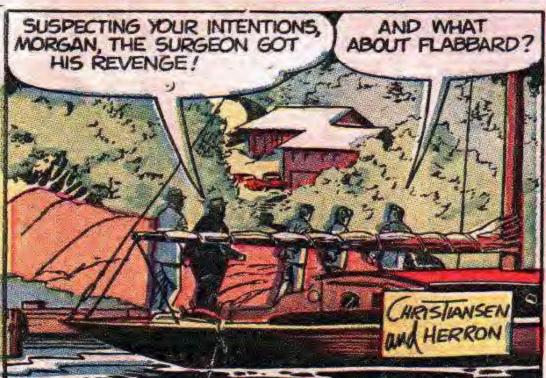






















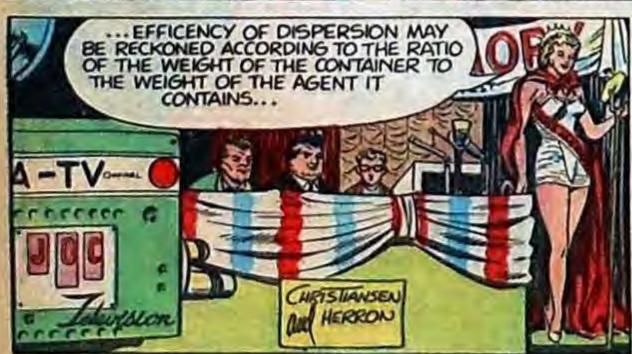
























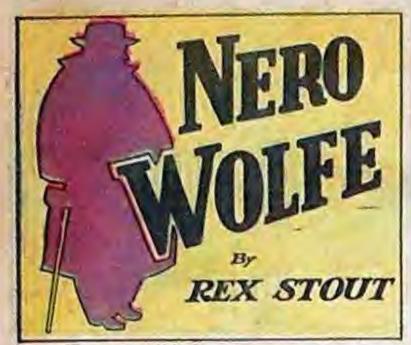












































YOU'VE BECOME A BIG DEAL



















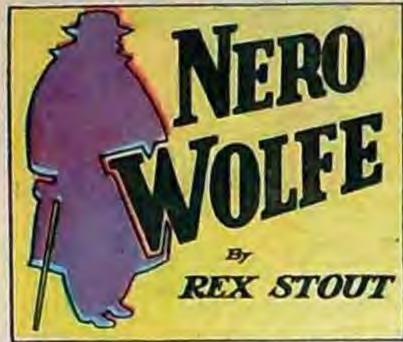












































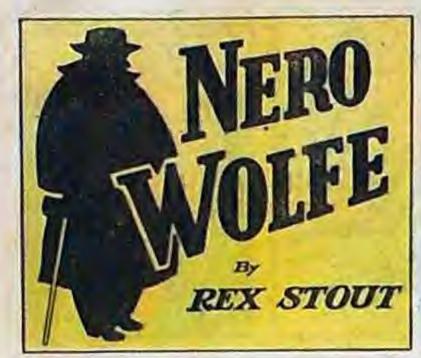






















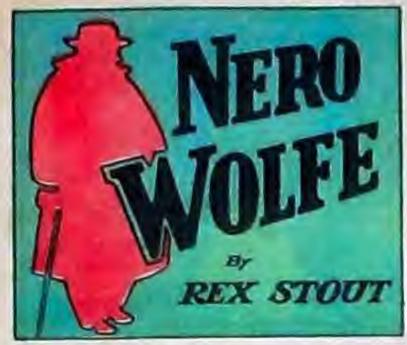












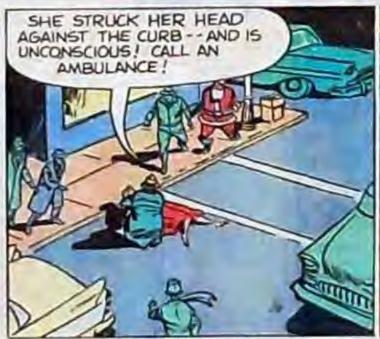




































VES-I ASKED HER TO FAKE THE ACCIDENT-TO ACT AS IF SHE LOST HER MEMORY! I KNEW THIS WOULD ATTRACT THE MOB HERE!



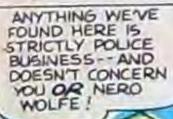






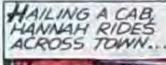














SOME BUSINESS! A PERSON DOESN'T KNOW WHO SHE'S DEALIN' WITH! ALWAYS TALKIN' TO SHADOWS --OR MYSTERIOUS CHARACTERS...











